

Docket No.: GEHRINGHOFF-8
Serial No.: 10/722,072

REMARKS

With regard to the requirement for election which is the only point raised in the Official Action, Applicant hereby provisionally elects the species A (Figs. 1 and 3) as covered by claims 1, 2, 4-8, with claims 1, 2, 4-8 being considered generic. Please note the difference between the species A and B resides only in the different length relationship between the inner flanks and the outer flanks of the beads.

For reasons of consistency throughout the specification, applicant has amended paragraph [0025] of the specification with respect to the flare angle between the neighboring flanks. The range of the flare angle in both species is the same. Support therefore can also be found, for example, in paragraph [0010] of the instant specification.

Applicant's election is made without traverse. As noted by the Examiner, upon the allowance of a generic claim, applicant will be entitled to consideration of claims to additional species, provided that all claims to all additional species are written in dependent form or otherwise include all the limitations of an allowed generic claim as provided by 37 C.F.R. §1.141.

It is noted that each named inventor of the subject matter of the instant application contributed at least to one of the claims, presently on file.

With regard to claim 3 constituting the other species, applicant does not waive any of his rights therefore or abandon such subject matter.

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Since applicant has fully and completely responded to the Official Action and has made the required election, this application is now in order for early action at least on the merits of claims 1, 2, 4-8.

Respectfully submitted,

By: 

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